Commerce and Interior Secretaries previewed the tourism strategy in meeting with Rep. Farr, Co-Chair of Travel and Tourism Caucus, and 40 tourism executives

Washington, DC – Congressman and Co-Chair of Travel and Tourism Caucus, Sam Farr (D-Carmel) today released the following statement hailing the Obama Administration's announcement of a national strategy to increase travel and tourism in the United States.

Earlier in the day, Co-Chairs of the House Travel and Tourism Caucus, Congressmen Sam Farr and Jo Bonner, hosted a roundtable discussion with Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, Commerce Secretary John Bryson and travel tourism industry executives regarding the challenges facing the tourism industry. The meeting also served as a platform for both Secretaries to preview the President's National Travel and Tourism Strategy to the over 40 tourism executives present.

"The United States is home to some of the most exciting and awe-inspiring tourist destinations in the world," said Congressman Sam Farr. "Our beautiful coasts, mountains, valleys and exciting cities have captivated the imagination of people all over the world. They want to come here, spend their money and have a good time. We need to let those people know that we are open for business. The President's national tourism strategy recognizes that international tourists contribute billions of dollars and create jobs in our local economies. I look forward to working with the Obama Administration to implement this strategy and increase domestic tourism."

<u>Click here</u> to view the National Travel and Tourism Strategy.

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